



SECRETARY OF STATE BRIAN P. KEMP

GEORGIA BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Georgia Board of Dentistry, 237 Coliseum Dr Macon, GA 31217
<http://www.sos.ga.gov/plb/dentistry> P: 478-207-2440 F: 866-888-1308

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Update from the Director

Randy Vaughn

The Professional Licensing Boards Division is committed to identifying and implementing efficiencies in every area possible. To achieve this, we are continuing to develop new online applications. In anticipation of spring graduations, we are currently working to ensure that additional types of license applications are available online. In addition to new online applications, we are in the process of upgrading our business software. The necessary upgrades will allow us to broaden our online services and increase our support for our applicants and licensees.

In March, Secretary of State Brian P. Kemp announced a multi-phase consolidation of the Securities, Charities and Cemeteries Division of the Office of Secretary of State. This Division will be consolidated and moved to the Professional Licensing Boards Division in Macon. We will be

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working throughout the second quarter to complete this transition and will provide an update on the transition in the next newsletter.

The Secretary of State's office is committed to operating as efficiently as possible while providing excellent customer service to the citizens of the State of Georgia. We appreciate your confidence as we continue to improve our ability to serve and support you.

About the Board

The Georgia Board of Dentistry consists of eleven members: nine licensed dentists, one dental hygienist and one consumer member. The Board carries out its responsibility for protecting the public health in the practice of dentistry by regulating and enforcing the standards of practice. Typically, the Board meets twelve times each year. Board meetings are open to the public, with the exception of executive session, in which confidential matters such as complaints, disciplinary items, and applications are discussed.

Through the Dental Board's licensure process, the Board ensures that those applying for licensure in this state as a dentist or dental hygienist have acceptable education, training, and personal character to safely practice in Georgia. In carrying out its regulatory functions, the Board sets and defines standards to draw the line between safe and dangerous dental practices.

The Georgia Board of Dentistry fulfills its enforcement responsibilities by identifying and sanctioning those who practice below the accepted standards of the profession, or without the necessary qualifications. The Board generally meets once each month.

2010 Meeting Dates

May 7, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.
 June 18, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.
 July 9, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.
 August 13, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. (Conf Call)
 September 10, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.
 October 8, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.
 November 12, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.
 December 10, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. (Conf Call)

The Board meets at the Professional Licensing Board Office in Macon.

Approved minutes from the Board meetings may be found on the Board's website at www.sos.ga.gov/plb/dentistry

Board Members and Staff

Steve Holcomb, D.M.D., President
 Rebecca Bays Carlon, D.D.S., Vice President
 Clyde H. Andrews, D.D.S.
 Pamela Bush, RDH
 Clark Carroll, D.M.D.
 Henry L. Cook Sr., D.D.S.
 Isaac Hadley, D.M.D.
 Logan "Buzzy" Nalley Jr., D.M.D.
 Elaine Richardson, Consumer Member
 Barry Stacey, D.M.D.

Anita Martin
 Executive Director
 Georgia Board of Dentistry

Active Licensees

Dentist: 5,521
 Public Health: 1
 Dental Faculty: 66
 Dental Hygienist: 6,663
 Dental Hygiene Faculty: 17
 General Anesthesia Permit: 175
 Conscious Sedation Permit: 216
 Temporary Dental Hygienist: 1
 Volunteer Dental: 3
 Enteral/Inhalation Conscious Sedation: 224

Expiration Dates

Conscious Sedation Permit – December 31 of odd numbered years
 Dental Faculty – December 31 of odd numbered years
 Dental Hygiene Faculty – December 31 of odd numbered years
 Dental Hygienist – December 31 of odd numbered years
 Dentist – December 31 of odd numbered years
 Enteral/Inhalation Conscious Sedation – December 31 of odd numbered years
 General Anesthesia Permit – December 31 of odd numbered years
 Public Health – December 31 of odd numbered years
 Volunteer Dental – December 31 of odd numbered years

"It is illegal to practice dentistry or dental hygiene with an expired license."

Actions Taken by the Board

January: The Board voted to post amendments to Board Rules 150-13-.01 Conscious Sedation Permits and 150-13-.02 Deep Sedation/General Anesthesia Permits. The purpose of the rule amendments is to update the permitting and practice requirements for Georgia licensed dentists who have Conscious Sedation and/or Deep Sedation/General Anesthesia Permits.

The Board accepted a public consent order on the following individual:

- Troy Gibbons, East Point: Three years probationary licensure.

The Board voted to accept cease and desist orders for unlicensed practice from the following individuals:

- Jennifer Warner, Dawsonville, DBA Ultra Bright of Atlanta
- Patricia Seebach, Sugar Hill, DBA WhiteScience

The Board issued cease and desist orders for unlicensed practice to the following individuals:

- Christy Shaffer, McDonough
- Kenneth Hortman, Roberta
- Dawn LeClair, Stockbridge

February: The Board voted to adopt amendments to Board Rule 150-13-.01 Conscious Sedation Permits and Board Rule 150-13-.02 Deep Sedation/General Anesthesia Permits. The purpose of the rule amendments is to update the permitting and practice requirements for Georgia licensed dentists who have Conscious Sedation and/or Deep Sedation/General Anesthesia Permits.

The Board voted to post revisions to Board Rule 150-3-.01 Examination for Dental Licensure, providing a list of acceptable clinical examinations and restricting the number of times an individual can fail a clinical exam and still be considered for Georgia licensure; Board Rule 150-7-.02 Teaching Licenses, restricting practice outside of the physical primary campus of the school; and Board Rule 150-7-.04 Dental Licensure by Credentials, further defining full time clinical faculty practice and providing for required content of a clinical examination to be considered substantially equivalent.

March: The Board voted against the closure of any dental hygiene programs in Georgia, as the closure of these programs could negatively impact the delivery of dental care in Georgia.

The Board accepted a public consent order on the following individual:

- Dr. James E. Collins, Atlanta: Five years probationary licensure

The Board voted to accept a cease and desist order on the following individual for unlicensed practice of dental hygiene:

- Martha Y. Moreno, Atlanta

The following cease and desist orders were accepted for unlicensed practice of dentistry:

- James John Wrezesinski, III, Macon
- James John Wrezesinski, Macon

The Board voted to issue a cease and desist order on the following individual for unlicensed practice of dentistry:

- Anita Ogle, Chatsworth

License Renewal Process

How do I renew my license?

You may renew your license on the Professional Licensing Board website with a credit card. Click on the License Renewal icon and follow the instructions. You will be asked a series of questions including whether you have been arrested, convicted of a crime or received a board sanction since the last renewal, whether you have completed your continuing education requirements, and whether you are a U.S. citizen. Renewing your license via the website is the fastest way to renew your license.

The Professional Licensing Boards do not mail paper renewals unless requested. A paper renewal form may be requested by the licensee either by calling the Board office at 478-207-2440, or by submitting a written request.

Disciplinary Issues:

The board addresses these issues on a case-by-case basis and takes these matters very seriously, applying sanctions to those who violate the Georgia Board of Dentistry Practice Act, Board rules, and policies. It is important that licensees review all laws, rules and policies that affect their profession. These may be found on the Board's website at www.sos.ga.gov/plb/dentistry.

All public disciplinary actions will be reflected in the Board minutes which may be found on the Georgia Board of Dentistry website.

Grounds for denial, suspension, revocation of a license, or other disciplinary actions may be found at O.C.G.A. § 43-11-47 or at O.C.G.A. § 43-1-19, which can be found on the Georgia Board of Dentistry website.

Complaint Process Information

The Georgia General Assembly created the Georgia Board of Dentistry to regulate the licensing and practice of dentistry. The responsibility of administering the laws in O.C.G.A. § 43-11 is given to the Board, whose members are appointed by the Governor. The Board determines if applicants meet licensure requirements, promulgates rules, and considers complaints against licensees and allegations of unlicensed practice. The process for disposing of complaints is as follows:

Complaint Form:

Complaints must be reported to and received by the Board in writing. Written complaints may be submitted to the Board office or be submitted online at <http://sos.georgia.gov/myverification/submitcomplaint.aspx>. Documents received in connection with a complaint will not be returned. The complaint must contain sufficient factual evidence indicating a clear violation of Georgia law or Board rules.

Investigations:

The Board gives serious consideration to all complaints. Further investigative action may be taken. Should you file a complaint, you may be contacted by a Board inspector or investigator for additional information. Investigative files are considered confidential for any purpose other than a hearing before the Board. However, the Board is authorized to release such records to another enforcement agency or lawful licensing authority.

Notification Process:

While the investigation is ongoing, the Board is unable to discuss the status of a complaint with anyone, including the complainant. When the Board has completed the case, the complainant will be notified in writing of the Board's actions. All public disciplinary actions will be reflected in the Board minutes which may be found on the Board's website.

Frequently Asked Questions

The Board list of frequently asked questions is available on the Board's website. If you cannot find an answer to your question, you may contact the Board office at (478) 207-2440.